

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~P~~lease amend the claims as follows:

~~C~~**CLAIM 3:** Line 1, delete "or 2"

~~C~~**CLAIM 4:** Line 1, delete ", 2 or 3"

~~C~~**CLAIM 5:** Line 1, change "any preceding claim"

to --~~C~~Claim 1--

~~C~~**CLAIM 6:** Line 1, change "any preceding claim"

to --~~C~~Claim 1--

~~C~~**CLAIM 7:** Line 1, change "any preceding claim"

to --~~C~~Claim 1--

~~C~~**CLAIM 8:** Line 1, change "one of Claims 1 to 5"

to --~~C~~Claim 1--

~~C~~**CLAIM 9:** Line 1, change "any preceding claim"

to --~~C~~Claim 1--

~~C~~**CLAIM 10:** Line 1, change "any preceding claim"

to --~~C~~Claim 1--

~~C~~**CLAIM 13:** Line 1, delete "or 12"

~~C~~**CLAIM 14:** Line 1, delete ", 12 or 13"

~~C~~**CLAIM 15:** Line 1, change "any of Claims 11 to 14"

to --~~C~~Claim 11--

~~C~~**CLAIM 16:** Line 16, change "any of Claims 10 to 15"

to --~~C~~Claim 10--

~~C~~**CLAIM 20:** Line 1, delete "and 17"

~~C~~**CLAIM 21:** Line 1, change "any of Claims 10 to 15"

to --~~C~~Claim 10--

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

✓ **CLAIM 23:** Line 1, delete "and 21"

✓ **CLAIM 24:** Line 1, change "any of Claims 10 to 15"

to --Claims 10--

✓ **CLAIM 26:** Line 1, delete "or 25"

✓ **CLAIM 27:** Line 1, delete "and 24"

✓ **CLAIM 28:** Line 1, change "one of Claims 10 to 27"

to --Claim 10--

✓ **CLAIM 29:** Line 1, change "one of Claims 1 to 9"

to --Claim 1--

✓ **CLAIM 32:** Line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 9"

to --Claim 1--

REMARKS

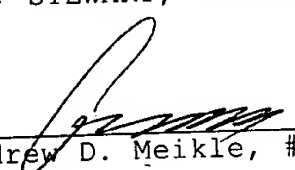
The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


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0696-0171P

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